

HB 183 -- KANSAS CITY POLICE AND CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

This bill changes the laws regarding the Police Retirement System of Kansas City and the Civilian Employees' Retirement System of the Police Department of Kansas City. In its main provisions, the bill:

(1) Changes the definition of "employee" as it relates to the provisions regarding the retirement systems to prohibit membership in the civilian employees' retirement system by any retired member of the police retirement system or from any other retirement or pension system of Kansas City who is appointed on or after August 28, 2011;

(2) Changes the start date for benefits of a member who retires or terminates after August 28, 2011, to the first day of the month following the month in which a member retires or terminates. No partial benefit is payable for the month in which the member retires or terminates;

(3) Specifies the requirements and time frame for the final beneficiary payment or a survivor's benefit upon the death of a retired member;

(4) Allows creditable service to be purchased by a member who is on an unpaid leave of absence for 30 consecutive days or less and returns from the leave prior to August 28, 2011, if the leave has been approved by the board of police commissioners;

(5) Requires a member, when purchasing prior creditable service after a leave of absence and a return to active service, to pay the actuarial cost as determined at the time of purchase rather than repaying the amount of his or her accumulated contributions with interest; and

(6) Requires a member who terminates membership and later returns to the system and is eligible to purchase prior creditable service to deposit in the pension fund an amount equal to the member's portion of the actuarial cost to restore the service. The portion will be determined on the ratio of the member's contribution rate to the total of the member and employer contribution rate at the time the member elects to purchase the service.